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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 630
By Haynes

A RESOLUTION to honor state 4-H leader, Ben T. Powell on his retirement.

WHEREAS, it is important that the members of this legislative body should honor those estimable persons whose professional achievements have benefited the young people of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, one such person is Mr. Ben T. Powell of Wilson County who through his longstanding affiliation with the 4-H Clubs of Tennessee has contributed significantly to the enhancement of this state's most precious natural resource, our children; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Powell received his Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture and his Master of Science degree from the University of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Ben Powell began his noteworthy Agricultural Extension career as an assistant county agent in Rutherford in 1959 and was appointed to a 4-H specialist position at the University of Tennessee in 1969 prior to becoming State 4-H Leader in 1981. He retired from the University in 1997 with thirty-eight years in the Agricultural Extension Service; and

WHEREAS, during his illustrious tenure as state 4-H Leader, Tennessee was recognized as being one of the top states in the nation in the number of national 4-H project winners; and

WHEREAS, he is the designer of the 4-H curriculum package that is now available to Tennessee 4-H members and under his august leadership, many new programs, including the

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Tennessee 4-H academic conference, D.A.R.T., 4-H Wildlife Conference, and the 4-H Sheep Conference, were developed; and

WHEREAS, Ben Powell is respected nationally as a leader among his peers and often served in National leadership roles. His work with 4-H judging programs resulted in thousands of Tennessee 4-H'ers having the opportunity to develop decision-making skills and is respected for his work with 4-H livestock projects and for his ability to focus on life skill development of youth; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Powell received the Distinguished Service Award and an American Spirit Award from the National Association of Extension 4-H Agents. He was also recognized with a National Distinguished Service award from the National Association of Agricultural Agents; and

WHEREAS, through the years Ben has been affiliated with the Gamma Sigma Delta, Epsilon Sigma Phi and Phi Delta Kappa honorary fraternities; he has also served with acumen as president of the American Hampshire Sheep Association and as secretary of the Tennessee Purebred Sheep Breeders Association and the Southern States Sheep Council; and

WHEREAS, Ben continues to serve the youth of Tennessee as a 4-H volunteer project leader for a Knox County sheep project group and as a volunteer in the state 4-H office; and

WHEREAS, his honors and accolades aside, Mr. Powell is most appreciative of the love and support he shared through the years with his wife, the late Charline Hamilton; and their three children, Thomas, the executive director of the American Meat Science Association who lives with his wife, Joyce and their daughter, Katherine in Kansas City; Mark and his wife, Jennifer, who live in Pensacola, Florida where Mark is an instructor at Pensacola Christian College; and Amy, who is a 4-H agent in Loudon County, Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is not often that a man of Ben Powell's stature walks among us, and it is important that he be specially honored for his lifetime of achievement; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we congratulate Mr. Ben T. Powell on many years of conscientious service to the young people of this state and extend to him our best wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.